



Washington State Legislature

Dear Teacher:

Thank you for your interest in the Legislators Back to School program.

According to the National Assessment of Educational Progress, 75 percent of the nation's school children lack proficiency in civics. To address the growing public concern over the disinterest of youth in government, the National Conference of State Legislatures launched America's Legislators Back to School Week. This exciting program gives students a chance to talk about their ideas with their state legislator and helps to bring civics to life. The goal of Back to School Week is to educate future citizens about what it is like to be a state legislator and what the Legislature does. It is also designed to build personal links between schools and legislators; and to provide the Legislator with an opportunity to observe what is going on in schools.

We are writing to encourage active participation in this event by teachers. This is a great opportunity for us to improve children's knowledge of government and to build public trust and confidence in government. It is also an opportunity to show young people that their voice counts and they can be heard by their legislators.

Please join us in this vital civic education program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony M. Cook".

Tony Cook
Secretary of the Senate

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia Zehnder".

Cynthia Zehnder
Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives